RESEARCH ABSTRACT

Title of Project:

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DESIGNATED SMOKING AREAS IN MINIMIZING NONSMOKERS' EXPOSURE TO ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE

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ABSTRACT: In the space below, please provide a descriptive summary of your proposed research project.

Field studies will be conducted in 16 buildings in Seattle, Chicago and Los Angeles to evaluate the effectiveness of designated smoking areas in minimizing nonsmokers' exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) in adjacent work areas. ETS exposure, ventilation performance and occupancy data will be gathered concurrently in the smoking and nonsmoking areas under two conditions: (i) smoking lounge separately ventilated; and (ii) no separate ventilation. ETS exposure data will include vapor-phase nicotine, respirable suspended particles, ETS-derived particles and carbon monoxide. Assessment of ventilation performance will include continuous CO_2 monitoring, quantification of supply and exhaust airflows and determination of pressurization, occupancy data will include number of occupants in the lounge and number of cigarettes smoked. In these buildings with separately ventilated smoking areas, those costs associated with the retrofit of additional ventilation will be determined.

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Signature, Principal Investigator

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Date

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